



Library of Michigan's Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2007

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News from Nancy

State Librarian Nancy R. Robertson

With summer reading and vacations over, what a great time to jump into fall and a new school year with the 2007 Michigan Reads! program, this September's month-long "one state, one children's book" event that has evolved with several key enhancements, far beyond its year 2002 roots.



Michigan Reads! - this year featuring Leslie Helakoski's *"Big Chickens"* - is no longer just about reading to preschoolers, although that is still an essential intent. We've expanded the program's reach to connect with children up through second grade. More than 5,000 kits and books were sent statewide to all public K-12 schools serving grades K-2; all Head Starts; all Michigan School Readiness Programs; and all public libraries in the state, to encourage participation and help participants to easily develop programming.



We also created a substantial Michigan Reads! programming and resource guide. We're pleased to have partnered with Gari Stein (Ann Arbor area founder and director of Music for Little Folks, a music school for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and the grown-ups who love them) to develop programming content, including a music CD designed to complement *"Big Chickens."* Graphic designer Terri Haas-Wittman lent her expertise to create an inviting content package for use by participating libraries, schools and preschool classrooms. Additionally, the program now enjoys a strong partnership, through the Library of Michigan Foundation, with Target. Because of Target's phenomenal



Library of Michigan staff members assembled more than 5,000 Michigan Reads! kits and distributed them libraries, schools, Head Starts and Michigan School Readiness Programs around the state.

support - and the fact that the focus of Michigan Reads! was an excellent match for Target's community goal of improving literacy - we were able to expand the program's scope and effectiveness.

Helakoski, a Michigan author, will travel to eight different locations throughout September, giving *"Big Chickens"* programs for preschoolers and K-2 students. Helakoski joined illustrator Henry Cole at the Aug. 25 Target Children's Book Festival at Kensington Metropark to officially launch the start of Michigan Reads!



Gari Stein helps illustrate what all the clucking is about.

We hope you, your students and patrons are participating with great enjoyment in our 2007 Michigan Reads! program. To ensure continued program success, we encourage you to seek out program partnerships within and outside of your local and regional communities. Such community collaboration will benefit not only you but also the many patrons who rely upon your library for the best information and programming.

Happy reading!

Nancy

Michigan Reads! 2007 Author Tour

As part of the Michigan Reads! author tour, Leslie Helakoski is visiting the following locations throughout September. For more information visit www.michigan.gov/michiganreads and click on the Author Tour link.

- Portage District Library, Sept. 7
- Capital Area District Library, Haslett Branch, Sept. 11
- Allendale Public Schools, Sept. 14
- Bayliss Public Library, Sault Ste. Marie, Sept. 17
- Traverse Area District Library, Sept. 19
- Flint Public Library, Sept. 20
- Detroit Public Library, Sept. 27
- Ann Arbor District Library, Sept. 28

Law Library Re-Opens after Move to Library of Michigan Building

By *Gloriane Peck, special collections librarian*

The State Law Library has moved to the Michigan Library and Historical Center, bringing together in one place all of the Library of Michigan's collections.

The move consolidates three different law collections: the Law Library's main collection, which was shelved in open stacks at the Williams Building location, the Law Library's materials housed in closed stacks at that location, and a collection of items in storage at the Michigan Library and Historical Center. Both the Michigan Library and Historical Center and the Williams Building are in downtown Lansing.

"Now when someone comes in, no matter what they want, it's available on this floor," said Sue Adamczak, Law Library administrator. Before the move, patrons had to wait up to a day for items to be retrieved from storage at the Michigan Library and Historical Center.

More than six years in the making, the move began with a space analysis back in 2000, and final approval for the money to relocate came in January 2006. Funding was provided by the Department of Management and Budget as part of Governor Granholm's effort to consolidate state programs and make better use of state-owned and leased facilities. After funding approval, planning and shifting began at the Library of Michigan to make room for the Law Library. While the Law Library had outgrown its space in the Williams Building, the move also opens up room in the Williams Building for the attorney general's office to consolidate staff working in other buildings.

Beginning July 10, Stevens Van Lines moved materials from the old location to the new.

"The movers did a great job," Adamczak said. "There were a few glitches, but for the most part, it went well."

As materials were brought in from storage, they were added to the open stacks collection. "At certain points, everything had to slow down so the movers could integrate the collections,"



Sue Adamczak, Law Library administrator

Adamczak said. Four movers helped out by learning to put materials in order by Library of Congress call number.

The move provides one-stop shopping for patrons. The Library of Michigan's special collections, such as genealogy, Michigan history, rare books, and state and federal documents, relate to each other. With these collections now under the same roof as the Law Library, a genealogist, for example, will have access to an early Supreme Court case that includes an ancestor, and a law patron may utilize the Michigan newspapers collection to find articles about a particular case.

"It's a plus for our patrons because we can serve them in one place," Adamczak said.

Book trucks were wrapped in plastic to transport materials from the Williams Building to the Michigan Library and Historical Center. For fragile materials, a large piece of cardboard was placed between the books and the plastic to prevent plastic from sticking to the books.



Compact shelving was installed to accommodate the items moved to make room for the Law Library.



The Law Library's new reference desk on the third floor of the Library of Michigan.

Using the Law Library

The Law Library is open to the public 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Law Library also provides services by phone at (517) 373-0630, and by e-mail at lmllib@michigan.gov.

In addition to print materials, the Law Library has computers for legal research, including access to Lexis and Westlaw.

Michigan Newspaper Project Ends After 14-Year Run

By Kevin Dreidger, cataloger and collection conservator,
Michigan Newspaper Project



After 14 years, the Michigan Newspaper Project has completed its run. On June 27, the final reels of newly microfilmed newspaper, the *East Jordan News-Herald*, were added to the Library of Michigan collection.



The Michigan Newspaper Project (MNP) was part of the United States Newspaper Program, a project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and organized by the Library of Congress. This project began at the Library of Michigan in 1993 with a planning grant.

Subsequent years were spent contacting libraries, receiving inventories of their collections, and traveling to collections to catalog their titles and record their holdings. The project staff encountered nearly four thousand Michigan newspaper titles and added or enhanced thousands of records on WorldCat.

This record became the basis for the microfilming, which was conducted by Frank Boles and the staff of the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University. Because of the large number of unfiled titles, a committee of experts selected a list of titles to film.

The MNP filmed about 105 newspaper titles covering 33 counties. The earliest title filmed was the *Constantine Republican* (Saint Joseph County), 1836 to 1838. The longest-running paper filmed was the *Yale Expositor* (Saint Clair County), 1894 to 2003. In addition to English-language newspapers, the MNP filmed titles in Finnish, Romanian, Greek, Spanish and Polish. This project created nearly 800 new reels of microfilmed Michigan newspapers, with one copy going to the library that supplied the paper, one copy staying at the Clarke Historical Library and two copies going to the Library of Michigan. All of this film is available from the Library of Michigan through interlibrary loans.

The Michigan Newspaper Project made a significant impact in preserving and providing access to Michigan's newspaper heritage. The cataloging preserves the bibliographic history of

Michigan's newspapers and allows researchers to discover relevant newspapers and which libraries own them, while the microfilming preserves and provides increased access to many more of Michigan's newspapers.

**New Resource! Chronicling America:
Historic American Newspapers**
www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica

This database from the Library of Congress combines all the catalog records and holdings of U.S. newspapers, with a variety of helpful search options.

Revisions Make Michigan Documents Depository Program More Efficient

By Bernadette Bartlett, Michigan documents librarian

After a year in transition, the Library of Michigan is re-establishing the Michigan Documents Depository Program. Prompted by state government's continuing reliance on the Internet as the primary dissemination point for state government information, and with the authority given to the state librarian (MCL397.19), Nancy Robertson chose to revise the program, making it more viable and efficient.



The new, consolidated program has reduced the number of depositories from 54 to 11, and changed the primary format for documents acquired and preserved from print to electronic. Selected publications – those included on the Core List of Michigan Documents (http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal/hal_lm_2006_draft_core_list_177774_7.pdf) and documents not issued electronically – are still distributed to the depositories in print form. However, the majority of Michigan documents are captured and preserved in digital formats via OCLC's Digital Archive and made available in ANSWER, the Library of Michigan's online catalog, as well as MeLCat and WorldCat. The Library of Michigan began using the Digital Archive in 2002 after participating in a pilot project to develop the system.

The depository libraries selected (University of Michigan, Wayne State University, Western Michigan University, Northern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Northwestern Michigan College, Flint Public Library, Monroe

County Library System, St. Clair County Library, Calvin College and Oakland County Research Library) signed a memorandum of agreement with LM that outlines their additional responsibilities under the new program. Depositories now serve larger service areas, participate in mandatory training and program planning, and agree to enter documents into their local catalogs. The Library of Michigan's responsibilities include developing mandatory program planning and training activities, evaluating depository performance, and maintaining acquisition and preservation of digital state government information.

The Library of Michigan believes this new program benefits everyone. Users of depository libraries will work with more knowledgeable library staff and the most current information available. The only notable difference may be that users will be directed to electronic and online resources more often than print publications. Depository libraries will receive annual training and additional program support. On the flip side, Library of Michigan staff will spend less time on physical handling of materials and devote more resources to preserving digital state government information. In addition, training events and online resources will be available to all libraries and library staff in Michigan, ensuring that even non-depository institutions can continue to provide good service to users of state government information.

LM continues to work with the Legislature to pass new legislation that will strengthen state government support for the depository program and its new 21st century focus on digital documents. The library also is working closely with other Department of History, Arts and Libraries agencies, including the Archives of Michigan and State Records Center, to maximize its effectiveness in preserving state government information.

On the Web

For more information, check out the Michigan documents section of the Library's Web site at http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18637---,00.html.

PAC HUG Round Two Starts This Fall

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has provided funds to upgrade computer hardware through the Public Access Computer Hardware Upgrade program (PAC HUG). This one-time program targets public libraries that received computers through the original U.S. Library Program and libraries in areas of relatively high poverty and unemployment.



While the first round of the PAC HUG program is complete, further funds are available in a second round. As part of the grant process, eligible libraries will receive an application packet in September, to be returned to the Library of Michigan by Oct. 1. Grant funds availability will be based on the application response rate. Funds will be disbursed by the end of 2007 through the fiscal agent, the Library of Michigan Foundation.

For further information, please refer to the PAC HUG Round Two documents at www.michigan.gov/ldds or contact Karren Reish at (517) 241-0021 or kreish@michigan.gov.

New Five-Year Plan Approved for Michigan

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

On June 30, the Library of Michigan submitted a draft *Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2007 through September 2012* for its LSTA program, and the plan has been accepted!

The Library of Michigan receives funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the purposes of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). As part of the LSTA program, the library is required to submit a plan every five years detailing how the federal funds will be used to meet the goals of LSTA in the state. LM has been notified that its draft has been accepted by IMLS without revision.

The Library of Michigan is now wrapping up the *Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2002 through September 2007*. The library spent much of the past year evaluating the current plan and gathering information for the new plan. Many librarians and the public participated in the five-year plan evaluation activities, including the town meetings held in the spring. At each of the town meetings and throughout the evaluation activities, LM

staff listened closely to the needs, both now and in the near future, of Michigan's public, school and academic libraries.

The Library of Michigan combined the ideas received with the need to meet the goals of LSTA and wrote the *Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 2007 through September 2012*. The new plan will be posted this fall along with further information on which goals and programs have changed and which have stayed the same.

For more information, including the current plan and evaluation documents, visit www.michigan.gov/lsta.

Library of Michigan Celebrates Family History Month in October

By Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/genealogy coordinator

In October, the Library of Michigan will again celebrate Family History Month by offering a number of programs throughout the month. Together with the Archives of Michigan, the library will offer 30 programs, including Vital Records at the Library of Michigan, Preservation Hints for Your Family Treasures, Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online, Genealogy of a House and Family History Resources on the Internet. For registration information, please visit www.michigan.gov/familyhistory.



The library is also proud to partner with the Michigan Genealogical Council for a daylong seminar on Saturday, Oct. 20 – *21st Century Techniques for the Genealogist: "I Didn't Know That."* A schedule and registration form for this seminar are available online at www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc/special.htm.

Questions? Please call the Library of Michigan's reference desk at (517) 373-1300, or e-mail librarian@michigan.gov. We look forward to seeing everyone in October!

Family History Month Programs Presented by the Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan

Tuesday, Oct. 2: Getting Started

9-10 a.m. – Beginning Your Family History Research
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Discovering the Genealogy Resources at the Library of Michigan
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Family History Resources at the Archives of Michigan

Wednesday, Oct. 3 (Repeat of Oct. 2 sessions)

1-2 p.m. – Beginning Your Family History Research
2:15-3:15 p.m. – Discovering the Genealogy Resources at the Library of Michigan
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Family History Resources at the Archives of Michigan

Tuesday, Oct. 9: Using Rare and Unique Items

9-10 a.m. – Rare Book Resources
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Preservation Hints for Your Family History Treasures
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Genealogy of a House

Wednesday, Oct. 10 (Repeat of Oct. 9 sessions)

1-2 p.m. – Rare Book Resources
2:15-3:15 p.m. – Preservation Hints for Your Family History Treasures
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Genealogy of a House

Tuesday, Oct. 16: Online Resources

9-10 a.m. – Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Family History Resources on the Internet
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Ancestry Library Edition

Wednesday, Oct. 17 (Repeat of Oct. 16 sessions)

1-2 p.m. – Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online
2:15-3:15 p.m. – Family History Resources on the Internet
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Ancestry Library Edition

Tuesday, Oct. 23: Special Collections

9-10 a.m. – Vital Records at the Library of Michigan
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Filling in for Missing 1890 Census Information
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Military Records at the Archives of Michigan

Wednesday, Oct. 24 (Repeat of Oct. 23 sessions)

1-2 p.m. – Vital Records at the Library of Michigan
2:15-3:15 p.m. – Filling in for Missing 1890 Census Information
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Military Records at the Archives of Michigan

Tuesday, Oct. 30: Catching Up...

9-10 a.m. – Beginning Your Family History Research
10:15-11:15 a.m. – Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Genealogy of a House

Wednesday, Oct. 31 (Repeat of Oct. 30 sessions)

1-2 p.m. – Beginning Your Family History Research
2:15-3:15 p.m. – Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online
3:30-4:30 p.m. – Genealogy of a House

Attendance Jumps 50 Percent at 2007 Abrams Genealogy Seminar

By Gloriane Peck, special collections librarian

The 2007 Abrams Genealogy Seminar at the Library of Michigan drew more than 160 people from around Michigan, the Midwest and as far as Montreal, Quebec.

Attendance at the July 20-21 seminar was up about 50 percent from 2006, said Randy Riley, special collections manager at the Library of Michigan.

"We are very happy with the turnout," Riley said. "Family history researchers are a dedicated group, and they really made the most of their time here, learning new avenues for research and exploring the library's extensive genealogy collection."

In addition to highlighting the Library's Michigan and genealogy collections, the seminar featured speakers from distinctive local and regional collections at libraries around the state. Keynote speaker Colleen Fitzpatrick, author of *Forensic Genealogy* and *DNA & Genealogy*, earned rave reviews from participants, Riley said.

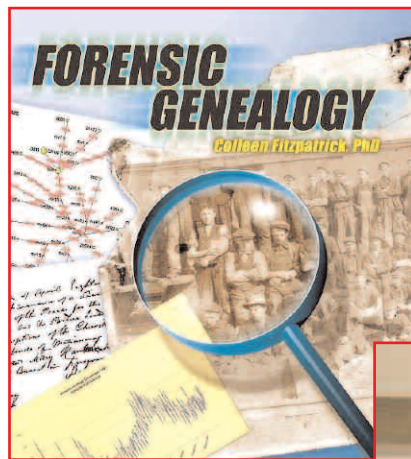
"Forensic genealogy is one of the hottest topics in family history research right now," Riley said. "Colleen's talk provided practical advice for genealogists wanting to bring together DNA research with more traditional genealogy practices."

The Library of Michigan has one of the top 10 genealogy collections in the United States.

On the Web

Genealogy research at the Library of Michigan:
www.michigan.gov/familyhistory

Abrams Genealogy Seminar participants attended sessions on Library of Michigan family history resources as well as programs highlighting genealogy resources at libraries around Michigan. The seminar was held July 20-21.



Author Colleen Fitzpatrick was the seminar's keynote speaker.



Noteworthy New Items at the Library of Michigan

To see what's new at the Library of Michigan, go to ANSWER, the library's online catalog, at www.answercat.org, and click the button "Check for New Books." Here are a couple notable items that have arrived recently:

Abrams Foundation Genealogy Collection

Census of Canada, 1911. Ottawa, ON: Library and Archives Canada, 200-.

The Census of Canada 1911 covered the nine provinces (Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) and two territories (the Yukon and the Northwest Territories) that were then part of the Confederation. The information in the census can be used to prepare family or town/village histories, research immigration trends and a great deal more. The Abrams Foundation was the generous donor of this acquisition.

Michigan Collection

Family Maps of _____ County, Michigan. Gregory A. Boyd. Norman, OK: Arphax Publishing. <http://arphax.com>

The outstanding *Family Maps* series is an invaluable research tool for local historians and genealogists. Each volume maps that particular county's original federal land patents, available online

from the General Land Office of the Bureau of Land Management, www.glorerecords.blm.gov. Surname indexes lead researchers to the maps, giving a visual reference of where and when ancestors first settled in an area. Tracking families and identifying their location within the county has never been easier.

To date, *Family Maps* have been published for 25 of Michigan's 83 counties, including Genesee, Ingham, Kalamazoo, Kent, Marquette, Oakland and Washtenaw. All of the available Michigan titles, as well as dozens of additional counties from around Midwest, are available at the Library of Michigan.

Library of Michigan Foundation

Greater Detroit Libraries, Cultural Organizations Team Up for Museum Adventure Pass, Sponsored by Macy's North

By Judith K. Moore, executive director, Library of Michigan Foundation

The Library of Michigan Foundation is pleased to share exciting news about the launch of an innovative program this fall. In a first-of-its-kind partnership in Metro Detroit, Macy's, greater Detroit libraries (through the Library of Michigan Foundation) and the Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan will introduce "The Museum Adventure Pass, presented by Macy's."

Set to begin Oct. 25, this program brings together 162 libraries and more than 20 local arts and cultural organizations to provide library cardholders free passes to participating local museums, cultural centers and historic sites. The program is designed to enhance the learning experience for people of all ages through books and other library materials, and to provide access to arts and cultural organizations.



People with a valid library card from one of the three participating library cooperatives (Detroit Library Cooperative, The Library Network or Suburban Library Cooperative, plus the Holly Township Library) can check out a Museum Adventure Pass at any of the public libraries in Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, Saint Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. Library users will then receive a museum admission pass for the organization they plan to visit. The pass will be handed in at the box office of the organization for free admission for two or four people. Each Museum Adventure Pass expires within one week of the checkout date.

More information will be available in mid-October by visiting or calling area public libraries, or by logging on to www.detroitadventurepass.org at that time.

MeL - The Library Made with Me in Mind!

Michigan eLibrary Databases

The next three-year contract for MeL databases runs from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, 2010. LearningExpress Library is on a separate timeline, with a current contract through Sept. 30, 2009. The Library of Michigan contracts with the Michigan Library Consortium to provide libraries with training for the MeL databases. For more information about MLC's training offerings, please go to www.mlc.lib.mi.us/cms/sitem.cfm/workshops_conferences/calendar/.

*indicates a resource that is new to MeL

Ebsco

[NoveList*](#)

[CINAHL \(basic\)*](#)

*New (CINAHL previously provided by OCLC and dormant for fiscal 2007)

Gale

[Business and Company Resource Center*](#)

[Biography & Genealogy \(Master\) Index Online](#)

[iInforme!](#)

[Kids InfoBits](#)

[Infotrac Student](#)

[Infotrac Junior](#)

[Health and Wellness Resource Center](#)

[Educators Reference Complete*](#)

[Infotrac Custom Newspapers](#)

[What Do I Read Next?](#)

[ChiltonLibrary.com*](#)

[Gale Virtual Reference:](#)

Beacham's Guide to the Endangered Species of North America, 1st Edition, 6V
Biology, 1st Edition, 4 V
Encyclopedia of Popular Culture, 1st Edition, 5V
Gale Encyclopedia of Alternative Medicine, 1st Edition, 4V
Gale Encyclopedia of Cancer, 1st Edition, 2V
Gale Encyclopedia of Genetic Disorders, 1st Edition, 2V
Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine, 2nd Edition, 5V
Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America, 2nd Edition, 3 V
Gale Encyclopedia of Small Business
Gale Encyclopedia of U. S. Economic History
World of Earth Science, 1st Edition, 2V

[Academic OneFile:](#)

Agriculture Collection
Communications and Mass Media Collection
Computer Database
Criminal Justice eCollection
Diversity Studies eCollection
Environmental Studies and Policy Collection
Expanded Academic ASAP
Fine Arts Collection
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues Collection
Health Reference Center Academic
LegalTrac
Information Science and Library Issues Collection
Nursing and Allied Health Collection
Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine Collection
Pop Culture eCollection
Psychology eCollection
Religion & Philosophy eCollection
U.S. History Collection
War and Terrorism Collection
World History Collection

[General OneFile:](#)

Business and Company Profiles ASAP
Gardening, Landscape and Horticulture Collection
General Business File ASAP
General Reference Center Gold
General Science Collection
Home Improvement Collection
Insurance and Liability Collection
Military and Intelligence Database
Small Business eCollection
Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure Collection
Vocations, Careers and Technical Education Collection

[Proquest](#)

[SIRS Discoverer](#)

[eLibrary Elementary](#)

[SIRS Renaissance*](#)

[HeritageQuest*](#)

[OCLC](#)

[Wilson Select Plus](#)

[MeL Custom Base Package:](#)

WorldCat
Electronic Books
ECO: Electronic Collections Online
ArticleFirst
ERIC
GPO Monthly Catalog
MEDLINE
World Almanac
HSTM: History of Science, Technology & Medicine*
SCIPIO: Art and Rare Book Database*
Hand Press Book Database*
CAMIO: Catalog of Art Images Online*

[Newsbank](#)

[Detroit News](#)

[Grand Rapids Press](#)

[Lansing State Journal](#)



HeritageQuest Genealogy Database Coming to MeL

By Kris Rzepczynski, Michigan/genealogy coordinator

Effective Oct. 1, and continuing for the next three years, all Michigan residents will be able to access HeritageQuest Online (HQ) – one of the most popular genealogy subscription databases – from the comfort of their own home via the Michigan eLibrary (mel.org).

Many features make HeritageQuest a fantastic genealogical resource, such as the complete set of U.S. census images from 1790-1930, including head of household indexes for most of those years. HQ also contains:

- thousands of digitized, fully searchable genealogies and local histories from across the United States;
- the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), a project of the Allen County (Ind.) Public Library that indexes thousands of genealogical society newsletters and journals;
- records of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, an important resource used in tracing African-American ancestors from the Civil War era that includes information on the accounts of many former slaves;
- and selected pension records of Revolutionary War soldiers.

Many researchers find the HQ search pages cleaner, more functional and easier to navigate than other databases.

Remote access to HQ also means that statewide access for Ancestry Library Edition at Michigan libraries will expire. The Library of Michigan will continue to subscribe to Ancestry for on-site use.

Whether in the natural beauty of the Upper Peninsula or the urban energy of Metro Detroit, in the dead of night or with coffee and breakfast, Michigan residents can enjoy the wealth of genealogical records available through HQ from anywhere in the state at any time of the day. The Library of Michigan is excited to offer this resource to the Michigan genealogical community, and encourages everyone to take advantage of it.

MeLCat by the Numbers

As of August:

- Total libraries are participating in MeLCat: 175 (39 academic, 115 public, 19 K-12, 1 special and 1 tribal)
- Items available in MeLCat: 24 million (7.5 million bibliographic records)
- Average weekly MeLCat requests: 6,802
- So far in 2007, MeLCat has had 251,682 requests, with a fulfillment rate of 89.2 percent.

Get Smart

Learn About MeL at Fall Conferences

MAME

The 34th annual Michigan Association for Media in Education conference (www.mame.gen.mi.us/conferences/MAME34.htm) will be Oct. 24-26 at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa. The theme is "School Library 2.0: Curriculum Collaboration." The conference will offer two programs on the Michigan eLibrary:

- Connecting Students with Books through MeLCat
- MeL Databases: New Gems and Trusted Standards

MLA

The Michigan Library Association annual conference (www.mla.lib.mi.us/events/annual), with a theme of "READ Between the Lines," is set for Nov. 6-9 at the Lansing Center and Radisson Hotel. Attendees can learn more about the Michigan eLibrary in these three sessions:

- How to Add 7 Million Books to Your Library
- MeL Databases: New Gems and Trusted Standards
- MeL – Michigan's Treasure – Unbury It!

The State Librarian's Excellence Award will be presented during the MLA conference at a luncheon from noon to 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 8.

MEA

The Michigan Education Association's annual conference, "You Have to Reach Them to Teach Them: Expanding the

Boundaries of Learning,” will be Nov. 29-Dec. 1 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dearborn. One program will highlight MeL:

- The Michigan eLibrary (MeL) Can Assist with GLCEs! Learn About the Michigan Educators’ Resources, Now Part of MeL

New Directors and Beginning Workshop Set for May

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The New Directors Workshop and Beginning Workshop are back and better than ever for 2008!

New Directors Workshop will be May 19-20 and Beginning Workshop will be May 20-22. Both will be held at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey.

The Library of Michigan will send notification out by e-mail and postcard when registration is available this fall. At that point, registration, a detailed schedule and further information will be available at www.michigan.gov/lma and www.michigan.gov/ldds.

New Directors Workshop is intended for directors and trustees of public libraries needing a basic background in library management topics. It will provide 1.2 CEUs.

Beginning Workshop is intended for paraprofessional staff needing a basic background in library topics. It will provide 3.2 CEUs for Level VII certification.

QSAC: Quality Counts

QSAC Certification Revisions and Workshops

By Karren Reish, LSTA coordinator

The Quality Service Advisory Committee has been hard at work on revisions of the measures for enhanced and excellent levels. As Michigan’s library community has changed in the past several years, updating the measures helps keep up with the times. The

text of the revisions can be found in the QSAC section at www.michigan.gov/ldds and will be included in the online QSAC program this fall.

To inaugurate the revisions and to focus on both how to get started with QSAC and how to use certification as an educational and advocacy tool, the Library of Michigan will offer a new series of QSAC workshops. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, Oct. 11: St. Ignace Public Library
Monday, Jan. 14: Kalamazoo Public Library
Tuesday, April 22: Mid-Michigan Library League in Cadillac
Friday, July 29: Flint Public Library

The workshops are free, and .3 CEUs are available for attendees. The workshops run from 1:30 to 4:45 p.m., with registration beginning at 1 p.m. Registration and further details are available at www.michigan.gov/ldds.

Current QSAC Certification Statistics

	Libraries	Cooperatives
Essential:	126	6
Enhanced:	19	4
Excellent:	3	2

Congratulations to the following libraries, which recently received certification!

- Reese Unity District Library reached the enhanced level in June.
- Canton Public Library reached the enhanced level in July.
- Grosse Pointe Public Library, Otsego County Library and Oxford Public Library all reached the essential level in April.
- Grand Ledge Area District Library reached the essential level in June.
- Troy Public Library, Dearborn Heights City Libraries and Farmington Community Library all reached the essential level in July.

Tax Deductions and Library Donations

By Lance M. Werner, library law specialist

It is always a bit of a challenge to decide on a topic for this column. There are so many noteworthy subjects to address. After some consideration, I have decided (based on a request that I received) that it would be useful to discuss donor income tax benefits for contributions made directly to public libraries, in contrast to gifts made to library friends groups.



Federal income tax deductions are available to taxpayers making charitable donations to public libraries and friends groups. State income tax credits are available to taxpayers making charitable contributions to public libraries. A tax deduction enables the taxpayer to subtract a percentage of the donation made from their adjusted gross income. A tax credit is an amount of money that may be subtracted from the computed tax itself. What does that mean? Simply put, tax credits offer “more bang for the buck.”

Public Libraries

Everyone knows that charitable organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status may accept tax-deductible gifts and donations. However, a “public library,” as that phrase is defined under section 2 of the State Aid to Public Libraries Act (1977 PA 89, MCL 397.552), does not possess 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the code) unless the library applies for it. Although it is possible for a public library to obtain 501(c)(3) status under the code, federal income tax benefits are available without it.

Significantly, public libraries automatically possess deductibility status under another provision of the code – Title 26, Subtitle A, Ch. 1, Subchapter B, Pt VI, section 170(c)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(v). The issue of whether or not a public library possesses 501(c)(3) status or governmental entity status under section 170(c)(1) of the code is moot because the federal tax benefits are identical.

Regarding federal tax deductions, section 170 (c)(1) of the code provides that a taxpayer, both an individual and a corporation, may claim an income tax deduction for charitable donations made to “[a] State, a possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, or the United

States or the District of Columbia, but only if the contribution or gift is made for exclusively public purposes.”

Michigan law also provides for tax benefits made for charitable contributions to public libraries. Section 26 of the Income Tax Act of 1967 (the act), 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.26, defines “taxpayer” as “any person subject to the taxes imposed by this act.” Section 260 of the act, MCL 206.260, expresses:

A taxpayer may credit against the tax imposed by this act for the tax year, an amount, subject to the applicable limitations provided by this section, equal to 50 percent of the aggregate amount of charitable contributions made by the taxpayer during the tax year to ... a public library.

It is also noteworthy that section 260 of the act imposes a limit on the amount of credit a taxpayer may claim. Section 260(2), MCL 206.260 states:

For a taxpayer other than a resident estate or trust, the amount allowable as a credit under this section for a tax year shall not exceed \$100, or for a husband and wife filing a joint return as provided in section 311, \$200.

The credit limitation above places a cap of \$100 for the individual and \$200 for a married couple for all eligible charitable donations.

Business taxpayers that are not subject to the act, but have other state tax liability, can make charitable donations to public libraries and claim a credit against the tax imposed by the Michigan Business Tax Act, 2007 PA 36 under section 421, MCL 208.1421.

Charitable Organizations and Foundations Supporting Public Libraries

Many of Michigan’s public libraries receive invaluable service from the dedicated efforts of their friends groups, including book sales, charitable events and advocacy. Many of these organizations possess tax-exempt status, as provided by section 501(c)(3) of the code, and are “qualified organizations.” The code provides that a taxpayer, both an individual and a corporation, may claim an income tax deduction for charitable donations made to “qualified organizations” that are “organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes,” such as friends of the library groups.

Conclusion

It is useful to be aware of the tax incentive differences between libraries and friends groups. Hopefully, the discussion above will prove helpful when responding to questions from donors about what tax incentives are available for contributions made to public libraries and to friends groups.

As always, this discussion has been furnished as an informational service of the Library of Michigan and is not intended in any way to constitute legal advice. For further information, please feel free to contact Lance M. Werner, library law specialist at the Library of Michigan at (517) 373-1299 or wernerl@michigan.gov.

Happening at HAL

New Exhibit at Michigan Historical Museum Explores Deer Hunting's Historic Ties to Michigan's Culture and Identity

Since prehistoric times, deer hunting has helped define the essence of life in Michigan. While it has evolved through the years from a fundamental means of survival for Native Americans to an enormously popular sport enjoyed by more than 700,000 hunters every year, deer hunting remains integral to Michigan's very identity. *A-Hunting We Will Go: Deer Hunting in Michigan* – a special exhibit at the Michigan Historical Museum (www.michigan.gov/museum) through Jan. 15 – tells the story of deer hunting in Michigan, with a glimpse at its beginnings and a focus on its development into the widespread pastime it is today.

The exhibit will touch on various facets of Michigan's long relationship with deer hunting – deer camp culture, elite hunting clubs, the Department of Natural Resources and scientific research, *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, Jay's Sporting Goods, Bear

Archery, the connection between hunting and labor unions, the Mackinac Bridge, the lumber and railroad industries, and more – and will feature artifacts from tools used by prehistoric hunters to firearms through the ages to Ted Nugent's loincloth.

Delve Into Our State's Past at Michigan Archaeology Day

The whole family will “dig” archaeology after spending the day at the Michigan Historical Museum on Saturday, Oct. 13. It's Michigan Archaeology Day, one of the state's most anticipated archaeology events for the general public. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. visitors will have the opportunity to meet professional archaeologists showcasing the results of their archaeological digs and underwater archaeological explorations and to take part in a variety of fun family activities such as trying your hand at using an ancient spear-thrower. Call (517) 373-3559 or TDD (517) 373-1592 for more information.



A deer camp near Tawas, Michigan in the 1930s.
Photo courtesy of the Michigan Historical Center.